

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-46 are pending in the present application. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-10, 17, 23-25, 30, 31, 33, 35-40, and 42-45. The Examiner has objected to claims 11-16, 18-22, 26-29, 32, 34, 41 and 46. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of pending claims 1-46.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-10, 17, 23-25, 30, 31, 33, 35-40, and 42-45 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Srinivasan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,304,549). Applicant has amended claims as described below. Thus, Applicant submits the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 1, Applicant has amended claim 1 to include limitations of claims 10 and 11, as the Examiner objected to claim 11, stating it would be allowable if amended to include the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims. Thus, Applicant submits claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 2, Applicant notes claim 2 depends from claim 1, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 2 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 3, Applicant notes claim 3 depends from claim 1, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 3 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 4, Applicant notes claim 4 depends from claim 1, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 4 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 5, Applicant notes claim 5 depends from claim 4, which depends from claim 1, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 5 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 6, Applicant notes claim 6 depends from claim 5, which depends from claim 4, which depends from claim 1, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 6 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 7, Applicant notes claim 7 depends from claim 6, which depends from claim 5, which depends from claim 4, which depends from claim 1, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 7 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 8, Applicant notes claim 8 depends from claim 6, which depends from claim 5, which depends from claim 4, which depends from claim 1, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 8 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 9, Applicant notes claim 9 depends from claim 8, which depends from claim 6, which depends from claim 5, which depends from claim 4, which depends from claim 1, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 9 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 10, Applicant has canceled claim 10.

Regarding claim 17, Applicant notes claim 17 depends from claim 1, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 17 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 23, Applicant has amended claim 23 based on claim 27, to which the Examiner has objected. Thus, Applicant submits claim 23 is in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 24, Applicant notes claim 24 depends from claim 23, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 24 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 25, Applicant notes claim 25, which depends from claim 23, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 25 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 30, Applicant notes claim 30 depends from claim 23, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 30 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 31, Applicant notes claim 31 depends from claim 23, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 31 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 33, Applicant notes claim 33 depends from claim 23, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 33 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 35, Applicant notes claim 35 depends from claim 23, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 35 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 36, Applicant has amended claim 36 based on claim 41, to which the Examiner objected. Thus, Applicant submits claim 36 is in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 37, Applicant notes claim 37 depends from claim 36, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 37 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 38, Applicant notes claim 38 depends from claim 36, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 38 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 39, Applicant notes claim 39 depends from claim 36, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 39 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 40, Applicant notes claim 40 depends from claim 39, which depends from claim 36, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 40 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 42, Applicant has amended claim 42 to include limitations of claim 46, as the Examiner objected to claim 46, stating it would be allowable if amended to include the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims. Thus, Applicant submits claim 42 is in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 43, Applicant notes claim 43 depends from claim 42, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 43 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 44, Applicant notes claim 44 depends from claim 43, which depends from claim 42, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 44 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 45, Applicant notes claim 45 depends from claim 42, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 45 is also in condition for allowance.

The Examiner has objected to claims 11-16, 18-22, 26-29, 32, 34, 41, and 46 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but states they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Regarding claim 11, Applicant has canceled claim 11.

Regarding claims 12-16, Applicant has amended claim 1, from which claims 12-16 directly or indirectly depend. As per Applicant's amendment of claim 1 in light of the Examiner's objection to claim 11, Applicant submits claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Thus, Applicant submits the claims 12-16 are also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claims 18-22, Applicant has amended claim 1, from which claims 18-22 directly or indirectly depend. As per Applicant's amendment of claim 1 in light of the Examiner's objection to claim 11, Applicant submits claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Thus, Applicant submits the claims 18-22 are also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 26, Applicant notes claim 26 depends from claim 25, which depends from claim 23, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 26 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 27, Applicant has canceled claim 27.

Regarding claim 28, Applicant notes claim 28 depends from claim 23, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 28 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 29, Applicant notes claim 29 depends from claim 28, which depends from claim 23, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 29 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 32, Applicant notes claim 32 depends from claim 23, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 32 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 34, Applicant notes claim 34 depends from claim 23, which Applicant submits is in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above. Thus, Applicant submits claim 34 is also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 41, Applicant has canceled claim 41.

Regarding claim 46, Applicant has canceled claim 46.

In conclusion, Applicant has overcome all of the Office's rejections, and early notice of allowance to this effect is earnestly solicited. If, for any reason, the Office is unable to allow the Application on the next Office Action, and believes a telephone interview would be helpful, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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